

PIONEERS WHO ARE STILL WITH US

They Include ex-Senators Stewart and Jones, of Nevada; Senators Perkins and Teller, of California and Colorado, Respectively; and Joaquin Miller, "Poet of the Sierras."

By DEXTER MARSHALL.

OF THE handful of pioneers who are still with us, none, even excepting the inimitable Joaquin Miller—has had a more adventurous or picturesque career than William M. Stewart, some time silver Senator from Nevada, and now, hale and hearty in his eighty-third year, enjoying the third fortune he has accumulated since the gold fever of '49 carried him from Yale to California, where he arrived in 1850 with the equivalent of a ten dollar bill in his pockets.

Each of Stewart's fortunes has been earned in the silver State, and each has been based on the idea of snatching riches from the earth's bowels. Though he began as a miner, and such accumulated \$5,000 in the short space of three months, Stewart realized before he had been a gold hunter six months that the safest road to wealth was not by the pick and spade. So he studied law at night when others gambled and drank, and two years after going West, secured admission to the bar.

As a miner he had been popular with the boys—he was brawny, fearless, optimistic, and a fascinating talker. As a lawyer his gift of gab seemingly hypnotized jurors as effectively as it had his fellow-miners. At any rate, he had such remarkable success winning cases right from the start; it speedily became a proverb that a case was three-fourths won with "Bill" Stewart retained, and many a race of rivals took place to his office to see who would retain him first.

Asks Large Fees. "Bill" Stewart, hard-headed Scotch-American that he has always been, displayed no hesitancy in asking large fees, and it frequently happened that a victorious client came to balance up his worldly possessions he found that his lawyer owned most of the property under litigation. Thus, the first fortune was won by the time Nevada came into the Union, and Stewart was sent to Washington as one of its first Senators.

He was in the Senate twelve years. At the expiration of his second term he was all but "broke" by bad speculations. He had made a fortune as a mining lawyer; he would turn the golden trick again. Returning to Nevada, he once more began to dig for wealth. Fortunately for Stewart, this time he was not so lucky. When the famous Comstock lode was a matter of mere litigation, the principal point at issue being whether the claims extended the width of the lode or only a certain number of feet, Stewart took the ground that they extended the width of the lode; this view was upheld by the courts, and at one stroke he secured a fortune of half a million dollars.

When he was returned to the United States Senate in 1885, Stewart was several times a millionaire; when he left in 1896 he was dead broke financially—had speculations again—but not in spirit. A gray-headed patriarch of seventy-eight, he packed up his old state library—looked it with him to Bull Run, then a newly opened mining camp, and for the third time in his life hung out his shingle, this time in front of a tent. Once again his legal services were in demand, and by the time he had a friendly tip on stocks that turned out exceedingly well he had accumulated quite a few thousands. "Dust," to-day he is in no danger of becoming the wolf's victim.

Had Many Experiences. Stewart's pioneer-day experiences would fill the traditional book.

While he was washing a pick in the big camp of Washoe, a fellow-miner one day came running into camp and shouting excitedly, "Petitcats! Petitcats!" Now, most of the miners had not seen a woman for months, and as one man they dropped their implements, their bottles, and their cards, and started out to seek the woman.

Pretty soon they espied a prairie schooner driven along the trail toward the camp by a lank individual who subsequently turned out to be from Missouri. "She's in there," shouted the excited miner who had given the alarm. Quicker than it takes to tell, the woman was surrounded and the driver begged to trot out his woman. He was willing, but the lady was not. After waiting patiently for fifteen minutes for her to change her mind (innocent fellows were waiting for the miners to retire to make the air blue in their disappointment).

When the "cussing" had become superlatively picturesque, young "Bill" Stewart rose in sight. The trouble was explained to him. "Say, boys," he shouted, mounting a position of vantage, "the woman's shy; what lady wouldn't be, with so many strange whiskers about? We've got to coax her out. Let's raise a little purse, just to show our good intentions."

Has Full of Gold Dust. The miners fairly mobbed Stewart in their efforts to deposit gold dust in his satchel. When it was filled he was told off as spokesman for the crowd, and the miners once more moved on the land schooner. They had formed in a hollow space around it, and Stewart fired off a speech. First, he assured the man that "the boys" meant no harm to him or his, launched into an eloquent and tear-moving plea to the lady to show herself, and sprang as his peroration the news that "the boys" had made up a little gift for her, in order to show their appreciation of her visit—and would she not then them the honor of accepting the gift in person.

The man in the wagon seat caught the gift of gold in the old hat. "Bill," he shouted, in a thoroughly business-like tone. A moment later, as the canvas flaps parted and a none too prepossessing and scared-looking woman was framed in them, a mighty cheer rent the atmosphere, and "Bill" Stewart gallantly stepped forward and placed \$3,000 worth of gold dust in the hands of the first woman ever to make Washoe.

One of Stewart's many close calls came to him one day in 1890, when he was driving from Downville, Cal., to Carson City, with his law library stored away in a cart. His four mules were clipping off about eight miles an hour, when an armed Indian emerged from the sage brush ahead and motioned that he wanted a ride. The white man pulled in his mules and the red man climbed up to the seat.

Disdains to Kill Him. For several miles the two rode on in silence. Then Stewart beheld ahead, on a roadside boulder, another armed redskin. From the corner of his eye he saw the Indian exchange signals, and he sprang for his companion's weapon as the Indian on the rock aimed his rifle. Fortunately for Stewart, the mules, taking alarm at



SENATOR HENRY M. TELLER.
Taken a Photograph Taken in Denver Last Summer.

the noise of the life-and-death struggle, ran away, and the shot went wide of its mark. Stewart succeeded in disarming his companion, and disdaining to kill him, stunned him with a blow from a brawny fist and hurled him into the sage brush.

Another thrilling chapter in Stewart's life occurred when he had the temerity to brave a mob of miners clamoring for the life of an Englishman who had been accused of the worst crime in the decaquelogue of them "dier-horse" that.

Though a score or so of bristling guns were leveled at his head by as many determined men, Stewart unflinchingly demanded that the mob hear him. His insistence on this point—and he an unarmed man at that—won the admiration of the crowd, and they gave heed to him. Right on the spot where it had been planned to string up the prisoner, Stewart declared that the man was going to have a fair trial. He announced that he himself would act as judge. He summoned a jury. He called up the witnesses and quizzed them. Then he made a typical early Western harangue, pointing out the lack of evidence against the prisoner. The crowd was convinced, the jury freed the prisoner, and six hours later the real trial was being held in a small, crowded hall, where Stewart was presiding.

The year that Stewart was admitted to the bar found him in politics and office—that of district attorney in California. From then on until he left the Senate in 1896 he divided his time between seeking gold and political fortunes.

All the years that Stewart has spent in the National Capital have not tamed him. He is still a pioneer in make-up—body, mind and spirit—and to-day he is as frisky, outspoken, free to criticize, hearty, bluff, ingenious of manner; and he looks like a prophet—and can talk like a fishwife.

Another ex-Senator Pioneer. The career of John P. Jones, also a pioneer and ex-Senator from Nevada, offers some rather interesting parallels with that of his old-time colleague, who is two years his senior.

Both spent their boyhood days in Ohio, and their parents moved when the boys were young. Each went to California in the first days of the gold excitement. Both were practical miners; both had half-brothers who were miners; both had early taken a hand in the political fortunes of the new country. After a more or less brief stay in California, each moved to Nevada, and there made and lost a couple of fortunes between 1865 and 1880; but while Stewart made his various "piles" out of litigation over mining properties, Jones made his through mining, straight. Both men were Republicans from the organization of the party; when the silver issue became paramount in 1896 both dramatically withdrew and supported Bryan; and when Bryan ceased to be an issue both returned to their first love. Each represented Nevada in the Senate thirty years.

Stewart's reputation for bravery in the early days was no greater than Jones'. It took an absolutely fearless man to be sheriff in the West in those days, and Jones' first important political office was that of sheriff. An incident in his life when he was superintendent of the Crown Point and Kentucky mines, on the southern end of the Comstock, shows the sort of sterling bravery he exhibited from the day he, a lad of nineteen, and his brother hit the golden West together.

An alarm of fire coming from the 1,000-foot level of one of the mines, Jones led the rescue, and in a comparatively short time he had been seen on the surface. With a handful of volunteers he dashed down again into the burning level, and succeeded in getting all but one of the nineteen out of harm's reach.

By this time the level was a raging furnace, the man who had been running the cage had been overcome by smoke and strain, and there was momentary danger that the cage itself would fall.

Youth Comes to His Aid. Though Jones doubtless realized all this, he again called for volunteers. Not one of the great, able-bodied men about him so much as haltingly lifted a foot forward; it remained for a stripling of sixteen to step to his chief's side.

Together they disappeared down the main of the mine. Silently the miners waited around the opening, and as the minutes dragged their length away there was many an ominous shaking of the head. Finally, when some of the more pessimistic men about were sure that the boys and the boy had surely been overtaken by flame or smoke, Jones, with the listless body of the miner over one arm and his lone volunteer overcome and in the corner of the cage, pulled all three to the top of the shaft and safety.

To make this little chapter of real life seem more like the culminating scene in a Third Avenue melodrama, let it be added that the three men were barely out of the cage before it broke loose and went dashing to the bottom of the shaft.

Jones' share of the profits of these mines amounted to several million dollars. A few years later all this fortune, for those days, had been dissipated by bad investments. Nothing daunted, Jones plunged into the fortune-seeking business again, and when he entered the Senate in 1873 he was easily worth \$5,000,000. To-day, after half a century spent in

Stewart and Jones Have Made and Lost Several Fortunes Apiece, and had Narrow Escapes from the Indians—Perkins, a Runaway, Found Fame and Fortune in Land of Gold.

equally turbulent mining and political camps, he is quietly passing his remaining years at Santa Monica, Cal.

Pioneer Perkins and Miller. Like the Silver State, the Golden State can boast of two very well-known pioneers—George C. Perkins, its senior Senator, and the far-famed "poet of the Sierras," Joaquin Miller.

Ten years younger than ex-Senator Jones, of Nevada, Senator Perkins had tasted well of adventure before he started for the Coast in 1855. At twelve he had run away from his farm home in Maine and shipped as a cabin boy. He and a boy companion had sneaked into the palace grounds of King Oscar of Sweden, been accosted by that royal gentleman, and given the liberty of the grounds. For

four years he had knocked about on the deep seas, and he had been in the East since he had sailed around the Horn to the Coast. During the long journey thither the skipper became fond of the lad, especially as he displayed great aptitude as a sailor. "If you'll stick by the ship and sail with her to Calcutta," he said in effect to Perkins, "I'll make you third mate by the time we reach there."

It was a tempting offer, but the gold fever was raging in the boy's brain. He drew his wages, invested in a small arsenal, and, in the company of a shipmate, set out to seek his fortune.

Oroville is about 150 miles from San Francisco; Perkins walked it, with a blanket on his back, and a gun in his hand, and he was swinging a miner's pick very many days before he arrived at the very same conclusion that the surest way to get money is not to dig it out of the ground. Therefore, he hired himself out as a prospector's clerk, and registered a determination to get his riches by catering to the wants of mining men.

Runs a Ferryboat. About the time he had saved \$300 toward this end he met a ferryman whose boat had brought up on a sand bar. Said boatman talked picturesquely about getting out of the blankety-blank business. Perkins asked what he wanted for his boat.

"A thousand," was the reply. Perkins scratched his head, made up his mind that there was a good chance to turn an honest profit, and got an option for the day on the boat. Perkins' first move was to draw his savings out of the bank. His next was to start at one end of the business street of Oroville on a borrowing expedition. By the time the other end was in sight he had the other two hundred, and "Just as the sun went down" he found himself owner of a very well stranded ferryboat. During the next eight weeks or so Perkins put in his spare time cutting timber from under his purchase. While the boat was stranded the people found out what a convenience it had been while running. When Perkins at last had it afloat again a good business came his way, and he shortly found a purchaser at three times what the boat had cost him.

Runs Out a Store. It was partly with the proceeds of this shrewd deal that Perkins bought an interest in the store in which he clerked. His next important business move was to buy out the whole business; and when he had made it turn in large profits he went into mining. Since that day he has been one of the big business men of the Coast, his interest including banking, mining, and steamships by the line.

Like Stewart and Jones, Perkins could not keep out of the political game very long. He dabbled in it almost from the day he began to clerk in Oroville. In 1868 his neighbors thought enough of him in a political way to send him to the legislature as a senator. He quit this post in 1870, three years later he was elevated to the gubernatorial chair. This he occupied until 1883; ten years later he was appointed United States Senator to fill out the unexpired term of Leland Stanford. He has been a national town weaver ever since.

Perkins' friends say that the events in his career of which he is proudest were his election in 1897 and again in 1903 to the Senate while he "was absent from the State attending to his Congressional duties." This quotation is from the Congressional Directory; it is the custom for Senators and Representatives to prepare their own biographies for the book, and it is the only statement in the biography that comes anywhere near like having a boastful ring to it.

Strong Sense of Humor. Like the typical pioneer that he is, Perkins has a strongly developed sense of humor, and his fund of laughable stories of hardship days is well nigh inexhaustible. There is a no more democratic man in America in the millionaire and over class, and as for his being a humorist, he was once a cabin boy, why, bless you, there is his Congressional biography, which gives the name of the vessel in which Perkins first ran away to sea.

As a toga-wearer Perkins has not made a name like a great legislator. Still, he is well thought of in the Senate; his advice is frequently sought by his colleagues, especially on Western and Coast questions, and in this way he sometimes stamps national legislation with his views. Joaquin Miller is so well known in almost every hamlet of the land that it seems hardly necessary to say anything more about him than that he is still alive,

and that his own accounts of his pioneer life are so much at variance one with the other in essential statements that it is a case of take your choice, according to individual fancy.

Goes to London. As a pioneer in Oregon, whither his parents moved from Indiana when he was a child, Idaho and California, Miller for years certainly led a varied, but by no means monotonous life as a miner, express rider, sedulous editor, lawyer, county judge, Indian prisoner, and fighter, and soldier of adventure in Nicaragua. Then, early in the '70s, he added to his string of experiences by starving in a London hotel, while he endeavored to get a publisher to take up his poems. This effort proving fruitless, he himself managed, in 1873, to get out a small edition of the poems. He sent a copy of the book to every newspaper critic whose name he had gathered in his search for a publisher, and almost immediately thereafter he was hailed as a remarkable new literary find and from that day to this he has been the "poet of the Sierras." Incidentally, he was the pet of London's drawing-rooms until his eccentricities and his books pulled on the weavers of fate. Then Joaquin sailed for home.

Since his trip to the Klondike in 1898, Miller has led a comparative monotonous existence. He is sixty-six now, and perhaps is feeling his years, though he is as rugged looking to-day as he was in his prime. His beard is thick and luxuriant and is even more sweeping than the one behind which ex-Senator Stewart hides the lower part of his face. Of the four pioneers mentioned, Perkins is the only one who has cropped his beard to the standard dimensions of the twentieth century.

Though Miller can read off poetry and poetic prose by the yard of a morning, as he has proved in his book, he is not impracticable, like most fellow-poets, and in his day he has made a lot of money in Wall street. In financial matters he has not been one whit eccentric; in all else he most certainly has, and especially in his accounts of his life. The man who undertakes to write a complete biography of Joaquin will have his troubles.

Half Dozen Famous Pioneers. Another Senator who should be looked upon as a pioneer is Henry M. Teller, of Colorado. Though he did not go West

until 1861, and then only as far West as the State which he represents in the Senate, still Colorado was very much pioneer country in those days, and Teller was one of its pioneer legal lights and railroad builders; from 1865 to 1870 he was president of the Colorado Central Railroad. Elected Senator when his seat in December, 1876, he has remained a Senator ever since, excepting, of course, the period from April, 1882, to March, 1885, when he was Secretary of the Interior under Arthur.

Like Stewart and Jones, Teller became a Republican at the party's organization, and left when the silver question came to the fore. Unlike them, he has not returned to his old allegiance, and the last time he was elected to the Senate it was as a Democrat. Until he became Senator he had never held a political office; thus he has held only two political offices in his thirty-two years in office.

Unlike the average pioneer, Teller never succumbed to the mining fever. In fact, he has been overcautious in mining matters, if anything. The tale is told of him that a quarter of a century or so ago he was strongly urged by two friends, in whom he had implicit confidence, to buy a third of a certain mine in which they were going to invest. Teller found out that they didn't have the money, and he would not think of giving his note. The mine yielded a fortune to the friends in a few years.

Perkins' first move was to draw his savings out of the bank. His next was to start at one end of the business street of Oroville on a borrowing expedition. By the time the other end was in sight he had the other two hundred, and "Just as the sun went down" he found himself owner of a very well stranded ferryboat. During the next eight weeks or so Perkins put in his spare time cutting timber from under his purchase. While the boat was stranded the people found out what a convenience it had been while running. When Perkins at last had it afloat again a good business came his way, and he shortly found a purchaser at three times what the boat had cost him.

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PLAYING TO THE GALLERY.

Super Gets Cheers When He Adds to His Lines.

"Better a glorious shame than a shameful glory!" exclaimed the heroic Robert Trueblood, and "exited" to prison amid thundering applause. There were two more acts to come so that everybody in the audience felt pretty safe.

But the youthful super behind the scenes chafed with envy. How could a man "act" when he had but one line to speak? He was resolved.

In act IV, scene III, he got his chance. My lord, he announced as usual, "the carriage waits."

But, to the astonishment of his fellow-players, he did not then effect his customary retirement. He advanced to the footlights.

"And allow me to add," he exclaimed, with great vigor and animation, looking up at the crowded gallery, "that the man who will lift his hand against a woman, save in the way of kindness, is unworthy of the name of a Briton."

How they cheered!

It was his glorious moment.

OHIO PICKS MANY WINNERS

Proves to Be on Right Side in Nearly All Republican Conventions.

With Exception of Supporting John Sherman, It Has Been on Band Wagon.

APPROPOS of Ohio's first Presidential primary, held last week, the Boston Transcript calls attention to the fact that the Buckeye State has proved herself the maker as well as the mother of Presidents in the thirteen conventions of the Republican party. Had it not been for the loyalty of the Buckeye delegates to the luckless candidature of John Sherman, Ohio would have backed the winners in practically all of the contests for the nomination of President.

In the first convention Ohio proposed the names of Judge John McLean and Salmon P. Chase. Both names were withdrawn in the interest of the party, but delegates insisting, Judge McLean received some votes in the informal ballot that preceded the nomination of Fremont.

On the direct and only formal ballot Ohio gave fifty-five delegates to John C. Fremont and thirty-nine to McLean.

In 1860 Ohio split its votes for three ballots, and at the end of the third ballot, when 29 votes were given to Lincoln, 15 to Chase, and 2 to McLean, it was Ohio's change of four votes that nominated Lincoln. The delegation made its vote unanimous immediately.

In 1864 Delegates from Ohio, proposed Abraham Lincoln by acclamation. The convention agreed with him.

In 1868 Judge Spaulding, of Ohio, presented Gen. U. S. Grant for President, and the State gave him 42 votes. He was elected.

In 1872 Ohio proposed and accomplished the renomination of President Grant. In 1876 Ohio proposed its governor, Rutherford B. Hayes, for President, gave him 41 votes, and stuck to him until he was nominated on the sixth ballot.

In 1880 Ohio offered its son, John Sherman, to the convention as its choice and gave him all her delegates throughout 25 ballots.

James A. Garfield, of Ohio, was nominated on the thirty-sixth ballot, and the State giving him 43 votes—Garfield alone voting for Sherman.

1884—Again Ohio presented John Sherman, but was divided in its support. The vote was given to James G. Blaine, and 25 to Sherman. These figures were reversed on the third ballot, and on the fourth Ohio withdrew Sherman's name and accomplished the nomination of Blaine.

Ohio's loyalty to Sherman again put the State out of the winning column. It gave him a solid vote until the eighth ballot, when 46 delegates voted for him and one voted for Benjamin Harrison, the nominee.

1892—Ohio backed its favorite son, McKinley, with 45 votes, giving but one to Benjamin Harrison, who was renominated on the first ballot.

1896—Ohio's 46 votes were cast for William McKinley, the convention's unanimous nominee.

1900—McKinley, again nominated unanimously, received Ohio's solid support.

1904—Ohio gave its 46 votes to Theodore Roosevelt, who was unanimously nominated.

There is no danger that the latter job will ever become extinct for lack of claimants to it. In fact, there are three Lord Great Chamberlains in the field. The office, which is one of state, was created by Henry I, who conferred it on Alberic de Veres. "To hold the same in fee to himself and his heirs, male and female, with all dignities and liberties thereto appertaining." Note the words, "male and female," for they kept the office in the family, and the Lord Chamberlaincy in the office descended directly through nineteen generations of de Veres, and then, being no son, was transmitted to Lord Willoughby de Eresby through his mother, who was aunt to the last de Veres.

The Willoughbys had it until their direct line failed, when the Great Chamberlainship passed to the two sisters of the last Willoughby. As two ladies cannot possibly be at the same time, they agreed that the heirs of each of them should hold the office in alternate reigns. The heir of one was Lord Cholmondeley, who held the office under William IV; the heir of the other was Lord Willoughby, who held it under Victoria. But when Lord Willoughby died, yet again two sisters succeeded him. His half of the Great Chamberlainship passed to Lady Willoughby and Lady Carrington. In the event, the matter about the office is in abeyance (which means in law any one person) between Lord Cholmondeley, Lord Ancester, and Lord Carrington; and that Lord Cholmondeley exercises it at present by the King's command. In the next reign Lord Carrington, or his successor, will take his innings, and after that Lord Ancester will take his turn.

The Marquis of Cholmondeley is fifty years old. His estate covers 4,000 acres. His name is pronounced "Chumley," not "Marchbanks," as Mark Twain asserted. He has never gone in for anything much but sport, and is known among his friends as a "jolly good fellow."

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